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Greetings!

Whether you love to hike, fish, hunt or otherwise enjoy the great American outdoors you may not know it, but you are an environmentalist. You care about having enough fish to catch, deer to shoot and trails to hike without seeing or smelling pollution. With our currently explosive population growth, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Permit (NPDES) compliance is required if we are to continue enjoying our natural resources. If you are a city manager, construction superintendent or manufacturing operations manager, you are also a stormwater treatment system operator. Your proactive approach to protecting surface water in your system directly affects the people living in the vicinity and downstream of your efforts to protect your creeks, rivers and lakes.



Whether it's drinking water, waste water or storm water treatment, its incumbent upon you as a water treatment professional to practice your message about the valuable work you do. It's because of what we do for a living that our water is cleaned before it's discharged beyond the boundary of our projects. It's paramount that our



family, friends and acquaintances truly understand and value the work that goes into providing pollution free water for our society. The work we do is more valuable than gold or any “thing” that can be acquired on this earth. Clean water for drinking, swimming and fishing is the foundation of an enduring quality of life. Without that, gold is worthless. We must work harder at effectively communicating our value and role in making America the Beautiful!



THE USEPA GET'S SUED!

A coalition of mid-Atlantic states is suing the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), arguing it hasn't done enough to protect the water quality of the Chesapeake Bay.

The suit from Virginia, Maryland and Delaware, along with Washington, D.C., argues the EPA hasn't met its obligations under the Clean Water Act to ensure Pennsylvania and New York met requirements to protect the bay.

Another suit from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation was filed concurrently.

[Read More](#)

WE ARE HERE TO TRAIN YOU SAFELY (in the Classroom or Online)



GSWCC

GEORGIA EROSION & SEDIMENT CONTROL

INITIAL CERTIFICATION COURSES



Level 1A - Blue Card

Level 1B - Red Card

Level II- Tan/Grey Card

For More Information
Call 678-469-5120
or
Email Us at:
Rita@npdestraining.com

RE-CERTIFICATION COURSES



SEDIMENT BARRIERS!

4 PDHs

We offer a quarterly **Sediment Barriers 4-hour course**.

Dr. Jim Spotts provides training on how to properly install and maintain silt fences, inlet sediment trap devices, etc. to keep your sediment from entering your watersheds. It's worth 4 PDHs.

We hope to see you at our next class!

[Sediment Barriers - REGISTER HERE](#)

Online Courses:

GEOS, Site Inspections & State Waters

Trees & Construction, Site Inspections & State Waters

Classroom Courses:

Level 1A - Level 1B or Level II

STORMWATER COURSES



**WE GUARANTEE OUR
TRAINING!**

Our reputation is built on providing YOU
the best stormwater education, taught by
EXPERIENCED INSTRUCTORS,
that know how to effectively teach!

**You NEVER pay twice for the same course you take
from us EVEN if you don't pass the test!**



To the trailer to check
compliance status



Inspecting and maintaining
perimeter control BMPs



Designing and
Maintaining the SWPPP



MS4CECI

**KEEPING WATER IN OUR LIFE
&
LIFE IN OUR WATER!**

Never Forget
the Why!

MS4CECI



MS4 Compliance & Enforcement Certified Inspector

INITIAL Course

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4-HOUR ONLINE MS4 Inspector Awareness Course

*NOTE: This course
is not the Full 2-day
MS4CECI Certification Course!*

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Call Rita at 678-469-5120
or if you prefer you can
Email Rita@npdestraining.com

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We're Here to Serve You!

MS4GIT **MS4 Green Infrastructure Technician**

The MS4GIT Course is a 1-day training experience focusing on Green Infrastructure BMPs and their installation & maintenance. Attendees will learn how to identify and solve issues surrounding poor maintenance, as well as avoid GI failures entirely. This course was designed especially for stormwater

managers, stormwater engineers and consultants, MS4 Inspectors and maintenance crews.



Upon completion, trainees will have learned to:

- Implement correct construction sequencing protocol for BMPs
- Understand how to read a BMP landscape plan
- Identify soil mixtures and calculate soil / material volumes
- Identify and select appropriate plants for BMPs
- Understand maintenance requirements of BMPs
- Identify common problems and solutions for BMPs
- Understand how to implement a landscape maintenance plan
- Evaluate plant performance and how to replace failing plants

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

TRACK RAIN ON YOUR PHONE!

The image shows a smartphone screen displaying the WaterWatchPRO app. The app has a green header with the logo and a menu with options: SITE LOCATIONS, PRECIPITATION FORECAST, SETTINGS, USERS GUIDE, and CONTACT US. To the right of the phone, there is a text box that says "Save money avoiding wasted trips and time spent looking up data" and "Easy Set-Up:". Below this, there are three icons with corresponding text: a download icon for "Download App", a location pin icon for "Set Location", and a notification icon for "Get Notified". At the bottom, there are banners for "Available on the App Store", "FREE Trial Download Use Coupon Code: NPDES", and "GET IT ON Google play". A final banner at the very bottom says "Get a BONUS during the trial and \$10 off when you upgrade".

Recording Daily Rainfall Without A Rain Gauge!

Recording daily rainfall is as easy as logging into your waterwatchpro.com account! Performing this critical component of NPDES Permit compliance, is simple but can be cumbersome without a digital cloud based account with one of the most reputable companies in the country. By recording your daily rainfall, you are demonstrating your desire to protect America's watersheds from our number one killer, SEDIMENT!

Go to www.waterwatchpro.com to learn more!

In a paper written by the USEPA, entitled "**Improving the Efficiency and Effectiveness of Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement of**

Environmental Policies", it says:

"Compliance is the ultimate goal of any enforcement program, it is essentially a state of being, a state in which environmental requirements are achieved and maintained.

Enforcement is defined as the application of a set of legal tools, both informal and formal, designed to impose legal sanction (e.g. penalty) to ensure a defined set of requirements is complied with. An issue that is continually debated is whether compliance can be achieved without enforcement. The answer, based on the U.S. experience and theory, is that enforcement is a necessary means of achieving community compliance. Although enforcement may not be needed to achieve compliance in minor individual cases, in most situations some level of enforcement is needed to create and maintain a complying majority. Previous studies have suggested the view that there will always be 5% of individuals who will violate no matter what, 20% who will comply no matter what, and 75% who will comply **only if the violators are punished** and/or the requirements are perceived as non-arbitrary. This, in concept, is the philosophical underpinning of the U.S. environmental enforcement program."



TECH TALK

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Tech Talk is a forum for resolving erosion and sediment control and/or construction related problems from a technical perspective. Questions are submitted by the reader; suggestions may be from the NPDES Training Institute, Southeast Environmental Consultants, LLC (SEC) or other sources. The reader is solely responsible for the results, if suggestions are implemented.

Question:

Can stormwater managers in smaller **MS4 permitted communities** find innovative solutions with limited budgets to meet MS4 BMP permit requirements for sediment and pollution control?

Answer:

Sediment pollution causes \$16 billion in environmental damage annually. While natural erosion produces nearly 30% of the total sediment in the U.S., accelerated erosion from human use of land accounts for the remaining 70%. Sediment entering storm water degrades the quality of water for drinking, wildlife and the land surrounding streams. It also clogs storm drains and catch basins that carry water away from roads and homes, which increases the potential for flooding. All cities, counties and other government entities are required to work under the requirements of a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit that authorizes the discharge of storm water collected by their storm water drainage systems into water bodies in the U.S. Effective January of 2017, the EPA Final MS4 General Permit Remand Rule requires "clear, specific and measurable permitting" conditions for measuring best management practice (BMP) implementation. Click on [this link](#) to learn how two small MS4 communities are working to minimize sedimentation and promote surface water quality.

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HERE'S TO TIGHT LINES & GOOD TIMES in AMERICA's Clean & Abundant Water!

America's past water pollution and the severe modern day pollution found in some American cities, as well as countries like China and India, send a resounding message of the importance of NPDES permit compliance.

What cities like [Los Angeles](#) (see right) are doing is inexcusable in America willing violate their MS4 Permit by pressure washing human excrement and other

pollutants directly down their storm drains. Los Angeles, Seattle and others are just another reminder of how important it is that we American's demand compliance with Clean Water Act NPDES rules & regulations! Every time you go fishing or jump in the lake to take a swim, be grateful for our NPDES permitting program that makes it all possible. Respecting our neighbors downstream is what America is all about and it's compliance with NPDES Permits that helps us do that!



"We all need to view NPDES Permit compliance as an investment in our nation's future quality of life, so our children will also have an equally great place to live, swim, fish, boat and hunt tomorrow! " T. Luke Owen

Sincerely,

T. Luke Owen, PG MS4CECI
Owner/Operator

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